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AGA American Gas Association

Planning and Analysis

Gas Stats

Monthly Gas Utility Statistical Report

1515 Wilson Boulevard
Arlington, Virginia 22209

Department of Statistics
Editor: Susan Brown (703) 841-8503

March 1988

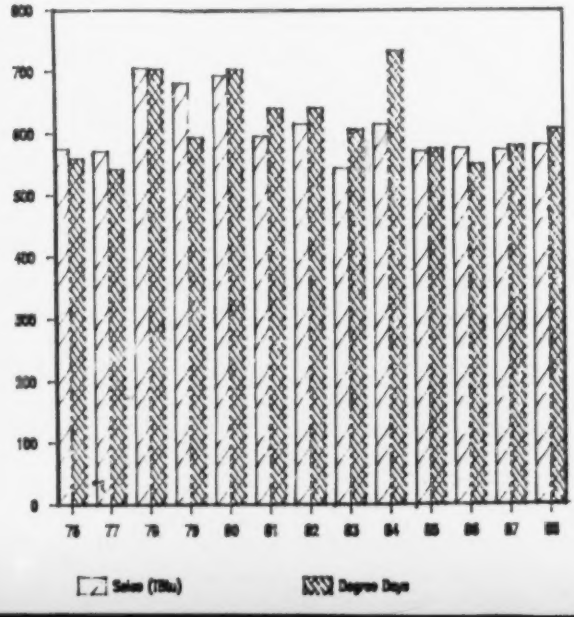
Residential, commercial, industrial and electric generation sales increased in March, 1988 compared with last year. Total utility sales were up from 1,186.9 trillion Btu in March, 1987 to 1,226.7 trillion Btu in March, 1988. Transportation volumes to end-users were up 34.7 percent compared with last year.

GAS UTILITY VOLUMES TO ULTIMATE CONSUMERS (Trillions of Btu)

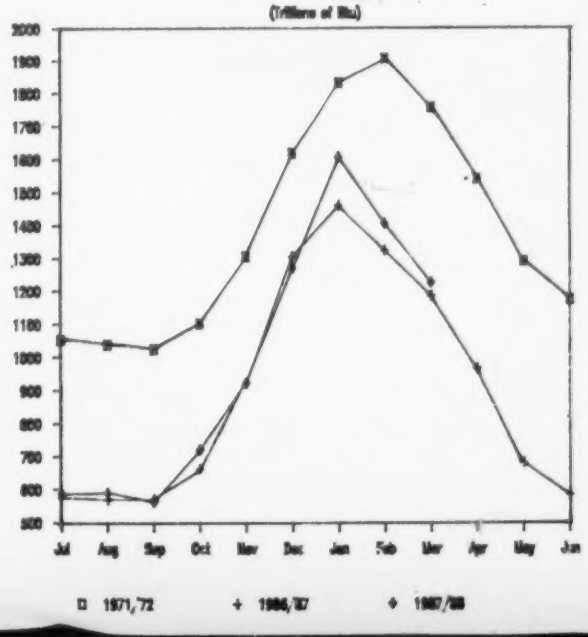
	March			Heating Season (Nov-Mar)		January 1 to December 31		
	1988	1987	%Change[1]	1988	(% Change) Last Period	1988 Forecast[2]	1987[P]	% Change
Residential	580.3	572.3	+ 1.4	3,201.1	+ 5.5	4,572.2	4,395.6	+ 4.0
Commercial	276.3	262.9	+ 5.1	1,473.1	+ 3.5	2,296.6	2,169.7	+ 5.8
Industrial*	203.1	191.7	+ 6.0	1,107.0	- 1.7	2,281.1	2,258.0	+ 1.0
Elec. Gen.*	149.2	144.6	+ 3.2	556.4	+ 4.2	1,839.5	1,866.1	- 1.4
Other	17.8	15.4	-	96.3	-	160.0	179.6	-
Total Sales	1,226.7	1,186.9	+ 3.4	6,433.9	+ 3.7	11,149.4	10,869.0	+ 2.6
Transportation*	380.3	282.3	+ 34.7	1,626.0	+ 36.3	3,618.2	3,375.1	+ 7.2
Total Volumes	1,607.0	1,469.2	+ 9.4	8,059.9	+ 8.9	14,767.6	14,244.1	+ 3.7**
Degree Days***	607	579	+ 4.8	3,757	+ 3.1			

*Significant sales volumes have been displaced by transportation volumes.
**No direct comparison with EIA consumption figures should be made.
***Source: NOAA (Weighted by Gas Homeheating Customers - Normal for March is 657).

MARCH RESIDENTIAL GAS UTILITY SALES



TOTAL MONTHLY GAS UTILITY SALES



RESIDENTIAL APPLIANCE SHIPMENTS - MARCH
(Thousands of Units)

		1988	1987	% Change '87 vs. '88
Domestic Ranges	- Gas	170.7	183.5	- 7.0
	- Electric	251.0	279.1	- 10.1
Clothes Dryers	- Gas	82.7	90.7	- 8.8
	- Electric	276.6	299.3	- 7.6
Water Heaters	- Gas	334.1	351.9	- 5.1
	- Electric	283.2	301.3	- 6.0
Warm Air Furnaces	- Gas	148.0	148.8	- 0.6
	- Electric	24.6	39.0	- 37.0
	- Oil	11.9	11.8	+ 0.5
Boilers	- Gas	9.5	11.7	- 18.9
	- Electric	0.1	0.1	+ 55.0
	- Oil	8.2	9.3	- 11.6

Source: Gas Appliance Manufacturers Association (GAMA). Association of Home Appliance Manufacturers.

SPOT PRICES TO GAS DISTRIBUTION COMPANIES
(March 1988)

Receipt Point	Price ($/MMBtu)[a]
Northeast	$2.20
Southeast	$2.45
Midwest	$2.10
Southwest	$1.77
West	$2.00
Total	$2.08

Source: American Gas Association
[a]Represents average price paid at receipt point for a one-month contract.

ECONOMIC INDICATORS - MARCH

	1988	1987	% Change '87 vs '88
Total Actual Private Housing Starts (Thous. of units)	131.4	141.2	- 6.9
Consumer Price Index (All urban, unadjusted, 1982 - 1984 = 100)			
Gas (utility pipe gas)	92.8	94.3	- 1.6
Electricity	107.9	106.7	+ 1.1
Fuel Oil	78.8	75.2	+ 4.8

Source: Department of Commerce, Bureau of Labor Statistics

Index Total Gas Sales (1972 = 100)	69.8	67.5	+ 3.4
Gas Utility Prices ($/MMBtu)			
Residential	5.09	5.14	- 1.0
Commercial	4.63	4.70	- 1.5
Industrial	3.40	3.55	- 4.2
Electric Generation	2.46	2.55	- 3.4
Total	4.36	4.45	- 2.0
Carriage Volumes[3] (Trillions of Btu)			
To Ultimate Consumers	380.3	282.3	+ 34.7
For Ultimate Consumers	135.2	62.3	+ 117.1
For Resale	492.2	449.0	+ 9.6
Total	1,007.7	793.6	+ 27.0

Source: American Gas Association

AVERAGE GAS UTILITY PRICES FOR THE 12 MONTH PERIOD ENDING
($/MMBtu)

Year	Month	Total	Res.	Comm.	Ind. Only	Elec. Gen.	Other
1979	Dec.	2.522	2.918	2.665	2.261	2.120	1.937
1980	Dec.	3.134	3.612	3.336	3.184	2.651	2.667
1981	Dec.	3.650	4.161	3.909	3.311	3.241	3.458
1982	Dec.	4.456	4.969	4.721	3.969	4.090	4.303
1983	Dec.	5.120	5.882	5.508	4.486	4.198	4.921
1984	Dec.	5.128	5.938	5.511	4.410	4.222	4.869
1985	Dec.	5.017	5.953	5.441	4.248	3.812	4.791
1986	Dec.	4.601	5.651	5.034	3.649	2.726	4.024
1987[P]	Mar.	4.466	5.502	4.856	3.492	2.628	3.862
	Apr.	4.426	5.461	4.819	3.460	2.614	3.790
	May	4.401	5.446	4.802	3.435	2.578	3.754
	Jun.	4.388	5.444	4.799	3.413	2.551	3.758
	Jul.	4.375	5.440	4.792	3.392	2.550	3.693
	Aug.	4.363	5.436	4.788	3.377	2.548	3.668
	Sep.	4.354	5.434	4.784	3.365	2.543	3.657
	Oct.	4.338	5.414	4.758	3.352	2.540	3.616
	Nov.	4.318	5.394	4.751	3.337	2.535	3.589
	Dec.	4.310	5.381	4.749	3.331	2.537	3.536
1988[P]	Jan.	4.299	5.333	4.723	3.327	2.545	3.489
	Feb.	4.285	5.295	4.696	3.313	2.556	3.466
	Mar.	4.276	5.289	4.687	3.301	2.549	3.444

AVERAGE MONTHLY GAS UTILITY PRICES
($/MMBtu)

Year	Month	Total	Res.	Comm.	Ind.& Elec.	Ind. Only	Elec. Only
1986	Mar.	4.81	5.49	5.15	3.59	3.84	2.76
	Apr.	4.68	5.76	5.21	3.38	3.70	2.61
	May	4.49	6.04	5.18	3.24	3.51	2.73
	Jun.	4.29	6.49	5.11	3.10	3.47	2.58
	Jul.	4.11	6.56	4.95	3.01	3.36	2.61
	Aug.	4.12	6.80	4.90	3.01	3.30	2.65
	Sep.	4.11	6.47	4.81	3.02	3.32	2.68
	Oct.	4.40	6.23	4.94	3.09	3.38	2.59
	Nov.	4.51	5.50	4.77	3.23	3.52	2.61
	Dec.	4.55	5.15	4.72	3.34	3.59	2.75
1987[P]	Jan.	4.57	5.14	4.78	3.13	3.44	2.34
	Feb.	4.66	5.17	4.80	3.42	3.64	2.87
	Mar.	4.45	5.14	4.70	3.12	3.55	2.55
	Apr.	4.22	5.27	4.75	2.91	3.35	2.51
	May	4.09	5.76	4.89	2.74	3.15	2.34
	Jun.	4.04	6.48	5.06	2.70	3.13	2.34
	Jul.	3.87	6.42	4.75	2.79	3.06	2.58
	Aug.	3.92	6.66	4.81	2.84	3.09	2.62
	Sep.	3.94	6.44	4.72	2.83	3.12	2.61
	Oct.	4.15	5.74	4.50	2.93	3.22	2.53
	Nov.	4.28	5.27	4.69	3.02	3.37	2.53
	Dec.	4.48	5.05	4.70	3.29	3.56	2.77
1988[P]	Jan.	4.47	4.92	4.63	3.19	3.40	2.49
	Feb.	4.53	4.95	4.62	3.42	3.49	3.21
	Mar.	4.36	5.09	4.63	3.00	3.40	2.46

Editor - Carole Williams-Hopkins (703/841-8507)

[1]Gas volumes are based on, and the percent change is a function of, the 69 sample companies whose sales constitute about 65% of total gas utility sales to ultimate consumers. The peak year in total sales for the gas utility industry occurred in 1972.
[2]1988 forecasts for the residential and commercial sectors are based on available 1988 monthly data with the remaining months derived by using a four year average. The industrial sector forecast (industrial only, electric generation, and transportation) is also based on available 1988 monthly data with the remaining months of 1988 heavily weighted by last years volumes with no adjustment made for degree days.
[3]Carriage volumes determined by using a simple straight expansion of sample data to represent the total gas utility industry. Carriage volumes for ultimate consumers are volumes owned by the ultimate consumer but delivered to another transporter, not the ultimate consumer, and are therefore broken out to eliminate double counting of volumes delivered to ultimate consumers.
P-Preliminary.